

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method of processing data in a computer system comprising at least one host and at least one content addressable storage system which stores units of data for the at least one host, wherein the at least one host accesses a unit of data using a content address based at least in part on the content of the unit of data, the method comprising an act of:

(a) creating the content addresses for units of data to comprise first information that provides an indication of which units of data are written to the storage system proximate in time; wherein the act (a) comprises, for at least one of the units of data, acts of:

creating a hash of at least a portion of the unit of data; and
adding the first information to the hash to create the content address for the one of the units of data.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising acts of:

(b) accessing one of the units of data by providing the content address for the one of the units of data to the storage system[[.]];

(c) considering the first information the content address for the one of the units of data in determining where within the storage system to store the one of the units of data.

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of [[inserting]] adding the first information [[in]] to the hash further comprises creating the first information at the at least one host.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of [[inserting]] adding the first information [[in]] to the hash further comprises creating the first information at the at least one storage system.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of ~~[[inserting]]~~ adding the first information ~~[[in]]~~ to the hash further comprises creating the first information at the at least one storage system and the at least one host.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1, wherein the first information includes at least a portion of a timestamp relating to when the one of the units of data is written to the at least one storage system.

8. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the act (b) comprises an act of using at least a portion of the first information to select a storage location within the at least one storage system for storing the one of the units of data, and wherein the method further comprises an act of storing the one of the units of data in the selected storage location.

9. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the first information is used by the at least one content addressable storage system to select a storage location within the at least one content addressable storage system for storing at least one of the units of data and wherein the storage location is a logical storage location within a file system on the at least one storage system.

10. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the method further comprises using the first information as a key to a database table.

11. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the first information is used by the at least one content addressable storage system to select a storage location within the at least one content addressable storage system for storing at least one of the units of data and wherein the storage location is a physical storage location within the at least one storage system.

12. (Currently amended) At least one computer readable medium encoded with instructions that, when executed on a computer system perform a method of processing data, wherein the computer system comprises at least one host and at least one content addressable storage system which stores units of data for the at least one host, and wherein the at least one host accesses a unit of data using a content address based at least in part on the content of the unit of data, the method comprising an act of:

(a) creating the content addresses for units of data to comprise first information that provides an indication of which units of data are written to the storage system proximate in time; wherein the act (a) comprises, for at least one of the units of data, acts of:

creating a hash of at least a portion of the unit of data; and
adding the first information to the hash to create the content address for the one of the units of data.

13. (Currently amended) The at least one computer readable medium of claim 12, wherein the method further comprises acts of:

(b) accessing one of the units of data by providing the content address for the one of the units of data to the storage system; and [[.]]

(c) considering the first information the content address for the one of the units of data in determining where within the storage system to store the one of the units of data.

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Currently amended) The at least one computer readable medium of claim [[14]] 12, wherein the act of [[inserting]] adding the first information [[in]] to the hash further comprises creating the first information at the at least one host.

16. (Currently amended) The at least one computer readable medium of claim [[14]] 12, wherein the act of [[inserting]] adding the first information [[in]] to the hash further comprises creating the first information at the at least one storage system.

17. (Currently amended) The at least one computer readable medium of claim [[14]] 12, wherein the act of [[inserting]] adding the first information [[in]] to the hash further comprises creating the first information at the at least one storage system and the at least one host.

18. (Currently amended) The at least one computer readable medium of claim [[14]] 12, wherein the first information includes at least a portion of a timestamp relating to when the one of the units of data is written to the at least one storage system.

19. (Original) The at least one computer readable medium of claim 13, wherein the act (b) comprises an act of using at least a portion of the first information to select a storage location within the at least one storage system for storing the one of the units of data, and wherein the method further comprises an act of storing the one of the units of data in the selected storage location.

20. (Original) The at least one computer readable medium of claim 13, wherein the first information is used by the at least one content addressable storage system to select a storage location within the at least one content addressable storage system for storing at least one of the units of data and wherein the storage location is a logical storage location within a file system on the at least one storage system.

21. (Original) The at least one computer readable medium of claim 13, wherein the method further comprises using the first information as a key to a database table.

22. (Original) The at least one computer readable medium of claim 13, wherein the first information is used by the at least one content addressable storage system to select a storage location within the at least one content addressable storage system for storing at least one of the units of data and wherein the storage location is a physical storage location within the at least one storage system.

23. (Currently amended) A host computer for use in a computer system comprising the host computer and a content addressable storage system, wherein the host computer accesses the data on the content addressable storage system using content addresses generated based on the content of the data units, the host computer comprising:

at least one processor that generates the units of data; and

at least one controller that creates the content addresses for units of data to comprise first information that provides an indication of which units of data are written to the content addressable storage system proximate in time, wherein the at least one controller, for one of the units of data:

creates a hash of at least a portion of the unit of data; and

inserts the first information in the hash to create the content address for the one of the units of data.

24. (Original) The host computer of claim 23, wherein the controller accesses one of the units of data by providing the content address for the one of the units of data to the content addressable storage system.

25. (Cancelled).

26. (Original) The host computer of claim [[25]] 23, wherein the first information includes at least a portion of a timestamp relating to when the one of the units of data is written to the at least one content addressable storage system.

Application No. 10/731,845
Reply to Office Action of September 20, 2007

7

Docket No.: E0295.70198US00

27-47. (Cancelled).